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search of *Polemonium cœruleum*, L., a station for it given me by C. D. Fretz, M.D. I failed to find it, want of time preventing as complete a search as I should have liked. The locality is peculiar, a pond, surrounded by a bog, elevated, I should think, from 300 to 500 feet above the river valley and in a depression; south and west sides wooded, the others clear, and no visible source to keep up the water supply. However, I was rewarded for my visit, as I found *Brasenia peltata*, Pursh., *Pogonia ophioglossoides*, Nutt., *Carex comosa*, Boott., *Potentilla palustris*, Scop., in flower, and two or three plants as yet undetermined. In May, I found *Jeffersonia diphylla*, Pers., and *Phlox divaricata*, L., near Dansville, Livingston County; *Cassandra calyculata*, Don., near Wayland; *Dentaria laciniata*, Muhl., and *Allium tricoccum*, Ait., at Cohocton, Steuben County. *Adlumia cirrhosa*, Raf., grows on the hills south of Addison, Steuben County. For this county, I can report the following as new finds: *Cardamine rhomboidea*, DC., very scarce; *Viola stricta*, Ait., one station on bank of Chemung River; *Vitis riparia*, Michx.; *Hibiscus Trionum*, L., escaped; *Lespedeza Stuvei*, Nutt.(?); *Ribes rubrum*, L.; *Trifolium agrarium*, L.; *Sanicula Canadensis*, L.; *Solidago Muhlenbergii*, T. & G.; *Polymnia Canadensis*, L., Chemung Narrows, rare; *Cichorium Intybus*, L., streets, N. Elmira City; *Mulgedium acuminatum*, DC.; *Pycnanthemum lanceolatum*, Pursh., Newtown Cr. Horseheads; *Fraxinus pubescens*, Lam., Chemung River; *Phlox divaricata*, L., one or two specimens, rare, and the most easterly station in the State known to me; *Scutellaria galericulata*, L., bank of Chemung River; *Quercus macrocarpa*, Michx., rare along the Chemung; *Acorus Calamus*, L., rare; *Sagittaria heterophylla*, Pursh, "Buttonwoods," Elmira, only station known to me; *Allium Canadense*, Kalm., bank of Chemung, Ashland township, with *Viola stricta*, Ait.; and *Carex pallescens*, L.

I have over six hundred duplicates, from this county mostly, and would be glad to exchange with other botanists, or sell sets if desired.

Elmira, N. Y. THOS. F. LUCY.

Notes.—*Juncus acuminatus*, Michx., var. *legitimus*, Gray.—The form with proliferous heads has been very common during the past season. More specimens were found in this condition than otherwise, which I believe to be something unusual. These heads are almost invariably inhabited by large numbers of a species of aphis, which seems to find something peculiarly attractive there.

Elymus Canadensis, L.—Specimens of this also were found with proliferous heads.

Osmunda cinnamomea, L.—In the month of September I found in a meadow, from which a crop of hay had been removed early in the season, a large number of the sterile fronds of this fern, with the pinnæ contracted to a greater or less degree and bearing sori, but still distinctly retaining their foliaceous character. This condition seems to be something akin to the var. *obtusilobata* of *Onoclea sensibilis*, L. Its appearance, I have no doubt, is explained by the cutting off of the frond during its period of most vigorous growth, and the consequent shock to the vitality of the plant.

Raphanus Raphanistrum, L.—A double seed-pod was found, with each of the divisions perfect and filled with seeds, but united at the base and having a common stalk.

" *Twin* " *apples* were unusually numerous during the past autumn. These offer excellent examples of syncarpy, or the adhesion of fruits.

Houghton Farm, Mountainville, N. Y. W. E. STONE.

Botanical Notes.

The Lignified Snake from Brazil.—In a brief note in the December number of the BULLETIN, Dr. Gray, referring to an illustrated account of a lignified snake published in our November number, expressed an opinion that there was no snake in the case, and stated that, at the moment of writing, he had not time to offer the two credible explanations of the phenomenon that had suggested themselves to him. In the current number of the *American Journal of Science* we find these two explanations given, and we quote them herewith:

"Through the kindness of the Brazilian Minister," says, Dr. Gray, "we have seen and examined the original specimen, and have been presented with an electrotype of it. It is a great curiosity. The resemblance to a snake is wonderfully close, although 'the scales and cephalic plates,' which M. Olivier identifies with those of a particular Brazilian snake, exist only in a lively imagination. The snake-like surface is covered by delicate meshes of woody fibres; and here and there particular fibres of woody threads can be traced from the body to the woody surface. The adopted explanation requires us to suppose that a snake had forced his way between the bark and the wood of a living tree in a position exactly under a grub or a larva; had perished there when within half an inch of its prey; was somehow preserved from decay, even to the eye-sockets and the markings of the skin, until a woody growth had formed, the elements of which replaced the whole superficial structure of the animal—until the animal was lignified!

"Two other and more probable explanations have suggested themselves. One is that the snake-like body is of the nature of a root, an aerial root, like those of a *Clusia* or a *Ficus*, which was making its way between bark and wood; and that the supposed larva is an incipient root of the same kind. The other supposes that the sinuous course is the track of a wood-eating larva or some kind of insect, the burrowing of which had not destroyed the overlying liber: consequently the new growth filling the space (except at certain points) has naturally assumed the likeness of a snake. This explanation was suggested by Professor Wadsworth, of Cambridge, examining the specimen along with the writer; and it is to be preferred. Still, that head and neck should be so well outlined, and the former so well represent a pair of orbits, were surely most wonderful. But a close inspection of the electrotype showed that there had been some cutting away at the right side of the neck, and that the narrowing there was in part factitious; and less decisive indications suggested that other outlines had been touched up. The sub-